

Course Descriptions

Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine (DACM) Degree Completion Program

Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine – 6 total credits/ 90 total hours

CM750 Advanced Orthopedics 1 [1cr/15hrs] Doctoral students assess orthopedic conditions using neurological assessments for common musculoskeletal issues and the associated pain mechanisms. Interns review and practice Chinese diagnostic method of palpation, observation, and questioning. Students also combine biomedical orthopedic and neurological tests with Chinese medicine diagnostics to develop effective treatment plans and prognoses. Students communicate to foster relationships with physicians through referrals, and to discuss patient condition and progress. This course addresses the neck, shoulder, upper back, elbow and wrist complaints.

CM751 Neurology [1cr/15hrs] Doctoral students analyze neurological conditions including cerebrovascular accidents (CVAs), multiple sclerosis and seizure disorders exploring both the western medical paradigm and Chinese medicine concepts. Students develop acupuncture and herbal medicine formulas to treat specific neurological disorders. Students will evaluate the potential interaction of herbs and supplements with pharmaceuticals. They will study the effects and side effects of common pharmaceuticals and how these effects may impact their Chinese Medical treatments. They explore cutting edge neurobiological research and reflect on the impact of this on neurological condition treatment. Students identify appropriate referrals for neurological conditions.

CM753 Advanced Endocrinology [1cr/15hrs] Doctoral students explore the functioning of the complex endocrine system and its related organs. They analyze endocrine conditions such as diabetes and abnormalities of thyroid, adrenal and reproductive system function from both Chinese and biomedical paradigms. Students develop diagnoses and integrated treatment plans for endocrine disorders based on Chinese medicine diagnostics using results from biomedical laboratory tests. Students will evaluate the potential interaction of herbs and supplements with pharmaceuticals. They will study the effects and side effects of common pharmaceuticals and how these effects may impact their Chinese Medical treatments. Students identify appropriate biomedicine referrals for endocrine conditions.

CM754 Cardiology [1cr/15hrs] Doctoral students analyze cardiac disorders, using both the western medical paradigm and Chinese medicine concepts and energetics. They develop acupuncture and herbal medicine formulas to treat specific cardiac disorders. Students will evaluate the potential interaction of herbs and supplements with pharmaceuticals. They will study the effects and side effects of common pharmaceuticals and how these effects may impact their Chinese Medical treatments. Students integrate cardiac research and reflect on the impact of this on cardiac treatment. Students identify appropriate referrals for cardiac conditions.

CM850 Advanced Orthopedics 2 [1cr/15hrs] Doctoral students assess orthopedic conditions using neurological assessments for common musculoskeletal issues and the associated pain mechanisms. Interns review and practice Chinese diagnostic method of palpation, observation, and questioning. Students also combine biomedical orthopedic and neurological tests with Chinese medicine diagnostics to develop effective treatment plans and prognoses. Students communicate to foster relationships with physicians through referrals, and to discuss patient condition and progress. This course addresses spine, low back, hip, leg, knee, ankle, and foot complaints.

CM851 Obstetrics [1cr/15hrs] Chinese medicine is used widely to support expectant mothers during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. Doctoral students analyze common obstetric conditions from a Chinese medicine perspective. Students identify safe, effective approaches to address common complaints of pregnancy and enhance recovery from childbirth. These approaches include acupuncture, dietary therapy, and herbal formulas for support throughout pregnancy. Students evaluate the potential interactions of herbs and supplements when treating obstetric conditions. Students identify appropriate referrals for obstetric conditions.

Biomedicine – 4.5 total credits/ 68 Hours

WM750 Research and Evaluation 1 [1cr/15hrs] This is the first course in a two-course sequence. Doctoral students analyze Chinese medicine research presented in peer-reviewed journals. Students discuss the basics of research and evaluation as it relates to Chinese medicine. This will include applying descriptive statistics to a data set, as well as determining the appropriateness of common inferential statistical tests often used in research. Students analyze Chinese medicine articles for significance in clinical practice.

WM850 Lab Analysis [1.53cr/23hrs] Doctoral students assess biomedical laboratory results using Chinese medicine theory and perspective to facilitate a deeper understanding of complete blood counts (CBC) and comprehensive metabolic panels (CMP). Students also analyze these labs and diagnostic studies from a western perspective. Students demonstrate effective communication of the Chinese medicine diagnoses and treatment plan, informed by the laboratory analysis, to both patients and biomedical professionals.

WM851 Pharmaceutical Analysis [1cr/15hrs] To effectively work in an integrated care model, an understanding of pharmaceuticals from a western perspective is essential. Doctoral students review the knowledge gained regarding metabolism of pharmaceuticals. Doctoral Interns learn to evaluate the pharmaceuticals mode of action from a Chinese medicine perspective and this allows a deeper understanding of Integration of western and Chinese medical care. This dual examination of pharmaceutical actions facilitates Doctoral Interns ability to effectively communicate with their Western counterparts to be able to offer more effective Integrative Treatment plans.

WM852 Research and Evaluation 2 [1cr/15hrs] This is the second course in a two-course sequence. Doctoral students structure and conduct a Quality Improvement (QI) study that can lead to an upgrade of their current practice. Students identify a logistical or clinical area in their practice that needs improvement. Students apply the Plan Do Check Act (PDCA) cycle as their QI method. The QI Plan to be submitted for this course is a compilation of the plan components that students have systematically developed and revised throughout the course.

Complementary Studies – 1.1 total credits/ 17 Hours

CS750 Collaborative Communication Models [.57cr/8.5hrs] Students learn how to enhance their communication skills with biomedical practitioners and in collaborative care settings. They will identify the elements of effective communication in these settings and the vocabulary that it is comprehensible to all members of a collaborative care team. The course also focuses on Chinese medicine practitioners written communication with biomedical practitioners in terms of constructing effective letters related to different types of common scenarios. With communication comes miscommunication. Students learn

how to approach miscommunication and rectify misunderstandings that can arise when two medical models interact. The culminating part of this course is students developing basic public speaking skills that will be aid them in collaborative care settings.

CS850 Practice of Systems-Based Medicine [.57cr/8.5hrs] Doctoral students discuss the structure of the conventional U.S. health care system and the information infrastructure that facilitates its functioning. Students also describe current health care payment systems (insurers) that are part of the overall structure. In addition, students identify governmental agencies, professional organizations, and other health care system principals (FDA, CDC, WHO, AMA, lobbyists) that influence health care systems. Combining knowledge of Chinese medicine and the conventional U.S. healthcare system, students analyze keys to Chinese medicine practice in the U.S.

Clinical Training – 4.3 total credits/ 130 Hours

Integrative Clinical Experience [3cr/90hrs] *Course numbers, number of credits/hours per section and per semester vary in the Dual Enrollment program and DACM Degree Completion Tracks.* Daoist Traditions offers a comprehensive clinical experience for doctoral students. Doctoral interns will experience a variety of health care settings that explore aspects of collaboration, from working with allopathic practitioners to advising patients on healthcare choices. Clinical experiences contain three focus areas that uniquely contribute to student's ability to practice as primary care Chinese medicine practitioners. In the first area of focus, doctoral interns observe senior faculty members treatment of patients presenting with a variety of difficult conditions seen in today's acupuncture clinic. Interns analyze patient cases and assess whether integration of care could enhance the treatment plan and how to communicate this information to the patient. As interns progress through these courses they will gain the necessary skills to analyze a patient from an integrative perspective and develop the skills for collaboration. The second area of focus is unique in that doctoral interns observe patient consultations by a licensed acupuncturist and western medicine physician at an in-patient care facility serving post-hospitalization and post-surgical patients. Interns observe the practitioners create, collaborate and design integrative care plans for the patient. Interns explore the Chinese and western diagnostic findings and evaluate the integrated care plan can addresses the patients' health needs. As interns move through these courses, discussions focus on the roles of all members of an integrated health care team and how well the integrated model is working to support patient care. By completion of these courses, an emphasis is placed on patient follow up care and methods to address how they can best access services that lead to improved life and health circumstances. In the third focus area, doctoral interns work in western medical facilities and research the specialized area in which they are working. Interns create, design, and administer Chinese medical care for patients. Specialized areas that could be included are Oncology, Hospice and Palliative Care, Addiction, and Pain Management.

Collaborative Clinical Rounds [1.33cr/40hrs] *Course numbers, number of credits/hours per section and per semester vary in the Dual Enrollment program and DACM Degree Completion Tracks.* Doctoral interns observe a patient intake by a western medicine physician and a licensed acupuncturist. An acupuncture treatment is then observed in a theater setting. Following the treatment, doctoral interns meet with four clinical supervisors. Throughout these clinical rounds, interns participate in four focus areas: acupuncture, herbal medicine, lifestyle, and pharmaceutical and lab analysis. Interns summarize western medical findings including medical history, lab work and pharmaceuticals, and relate those findings through a

Chinese medicine lens. Interns focus deeply on creating treatment plans that have a strong focus on the modalities of acupuncture and herbal medicine and address the patient's lifestyle and nutrition. Interns communicate treatment strategies with their patient and other practitioners to develop integrative care plans. The depth of these clinical rounds allows interns to synthesize the information learned throughout the doctoral program.